♦ JS 44 (Rev. 12/07) (cand rev 1-16-08)

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE TWO OF THE FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS				DEFENDANTS							
David Johnson				York Sing Mock and lok Kin Mock							
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Contra Costa (EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)				County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Santa Clara (IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY) NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF THE LAND INVOLVED.							
(c) Attorney's (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)				Attorneys (If Kr	iown)						
Thomas N. Stewart, III 369 Blue Oak Lane Clayton, Ca 94517 (925) 672-8452				EM	C		AD	R		g	
II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)			III. C	(For Diversity Ca	ases Only)				x for Defenda	ant)	
1 U.S. Government X 3 Federal Question Plaintiff (U.S. Government Not a Party)			Citizen of This State PTF DEF Citizen of This State 1 Incorporated or Principal Place 4 4 Of Business In This State								
2 U.S. Government 4 Diversity Defendant (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)				Citizen of Another State 2 2 Incorporated and Principal Place 5 5 of Business In Another State							
				izen or Subject of a Foreign Country	3] 3	Foreign Nation		6 	6	
IV. NATURE OF SUIT											
CONTRACT		RTS	-	FORFEITURE/P	ENALTY		BANKRUPTCY		HER STAT		
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL IN		610 Agriculture	e D		Appeal 28 USC 158		tate Reapport	ionment	
120 Martile	310 Airplane 315 Airplane Product	362 Personal Inju Med. Malpri		620 Other Food &		42.3	Withdrawal 28 USC 157	410 A	ntitrust anks and Ban	kina	
140 Negotiable Instrument	Liability	365 Personal Inju		of Property		ĺ	20 030 157		ommerce	кш	
150 Recovery of Overpayment	320 Assault, Libel &	Product Liab		630 Liquor Laws		PRO	PERTY RIGHTS		eportation		
& Enforcement of Judgment	Slander	368 Asbestos Per	sonal	640 R.R. & Truc			Copyrights		acketeer Influ		
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Injury Produ	ct [650 Airline Regs			Patent		orrupt Organ		
152 Recovery of Defaulted	Liability	Liability	Į	660 Occupationa			Trademark		onsumer Crea	dit	
Student Loans	340 Marine	PERSONAL PRO	PERTY ,	Safety/Healt	h				able/Sat TV		
(Excl. Veterans) 153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product	370 Other Fraud	<u> </u>	690 Other					elective Servi ecurities/Com		
of Veteran's Benefits	Liability 350 Motor Vehicle	371 Truth in Len		LABOI	R	SOC	CIAL SECURITY		Exchange	imod nies/	
160 Stockholders' Suits	355 Motor Vehicle	380 Other Person		710 Fair Labor S	tandards	1861	HIA (1395ff)		ustomer Chal	llenge	
190 Other Contract	Product Liability	Property Day		Act	anuarus		Black Lung (923)		2 USC 3410	ge	
195 Contract Product Liability	360 Other Personal Injury	385 Property Da Product Liab		720 Labor/Mgmt	Relations		DIWC/DIWW (405(g))	890 C	ther Statutory	Actions	
196 Franchise		PRISONE		730 Labor/Mgmt			SSID Title XVI		gricultural A conomic Stab		
REAL PROPERTY	CIVIL RIGHTS	PETITION		& Disclosure Act 740 Railway Labor Act		803	RS1 (405(g))	■ 893 E	nvironmental	Matters	
210 Land Condemnation	441 Voting	510 Motions to V	/acate	790 Other Labor					nergy Allocat reedom of In:		
220 Foreclosure 230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment 443 Housing/	Sentence Habeas Corpus	. 1	Security Ac		FEDI	ERAL TAX SUITS	_	ct		
240 Torts to Land	Accommodations	530 General	.	,		870	Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff		ppeal of Fee		
245 Tort Product Liability	444 Welfare	535 Death Penal	ry [or Defendant)	ſ	Determination		
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities -		& Other	IMMIGRAT	TION	1871	IRS—Third Party		Jnder Equal A o Justice	Access	
V	Employment	550 Civil Rights		462 Naturalization	Application]	26 USC 7609		onstitutionali	tv of	
Į.	3446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	333 FIRON COM	non I	463 Habeas Corp		ļ			tare Statutes	-	
//	440 Other Civil Rights		Į.	Alien Detair 465 Other Immig							
'\			ٲ	Actions	g at lon						
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X				Т	nsferred fr				A 1 do T	·	
(" in One Box Only)		4 D				C Market Header		Appeal to I		
Proceeding State		inded from liate Court	4 Reinsta Reope		other distri ecify)	cı [6 Multidistrict Litigation	·	Judge from Magistrate Judgment	1	
	Cite the U.S. Civil S	tatute under which	you are fi	iling (Do not cite	jurisdictio	onal sta	tutes unless diversity	y):			
AT CATION OF ACTIO	42 USC 12101										
VI. CAUSE OF ACTION Brief description of cause:											
	ADA Title III										
VIII DEOLUCOPED IN							OLEGO LET				
				DEMAND \$			CHECK YES	•		•	
COMPLAINT:	UNDER F.R.C.P.						JURY DEM	AND:	☐ Yes ☐	II NO	
VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY		R TO CIVIL L.R. ELATED CASE".		NCERNING REC	QUIREMI	ENT TO) FILE				
IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGN	MENT (CIVIL L.R. 3-	2)									
(PLACE AND "X" IN ONI			SAN	FRANCISCO/O	AKLAN	Dan	∰-SAN JOSE				
DATE				NEY OF RECORD	11/1/		V//.				
October 27, 2008				8	1/201	//×	KOEVER				

THOMAS N. STEWART, III - #88128 1 ATTORNEY AT LAW '369 BLUE OAK LANE, 2nd FLOOR 2 CLAYTON, CA 94517 TELEPHONE (925) 672-8452 3 TELEFAX (925) 673-1729 Lama Attorneys for David Johnson 4 5 ORIGINAL 6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 7 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 8 9 4955 DAVID JOHNSON, 10 Plaintiff, COMPLAINT FOR PRELIMINARY AND 11 PERMANENT INJUNCTIVE RELIEF AND DAMAGES: DENIAL OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND 12 PUBLIC FACILITIES TO PHYSICALLY YORK SING MOCK and IOK KIN MOCK, DISABLED PERSONS (CIVIL CODE §§ 54, 13 54.1 AND 55; INJUNCTIVE RELIEF PER TITLE III, AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES 14 ACT OF 1990 Defendants. 15 16 Plaintiff, David Johnson, alleges: 17 FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF: DAMAGES AND INJUNCTIVE RELIEF FOR DENIAL OF FULL AND EQUAL ACCESS TO A PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION: 18 PUBLIC FACILITIES AT A RESTAURANT (Civil Code §§ 51, 54.1) 19 Plaintiff is a C5/6 quadriplegic as the result of an accident. He does not have the use of 1. 20 his legs, and has limited use of his hands, and is a "person with a disability" and "physically 21 handicapped person". Plaintiff requires the use of a wheelchair for locomotion and is either 22 unable to use portions of public facilities which are not accessible to disabled persons who 23 1 Complaint

Filed10/29/08 Page2 of 12

Case4:08-cv-04955-PJH Document1

require the use of a wheelchair or is only able to use such portions with undue difficulty.

- 2. The California Bar and Grill restaurant, located at 2009 Somersville Road, Antioch, California (the Restaurant) is a Restaurant which is open to the public. Defendants own the real property where the Restaurant is located.
- 3. Summary of facts: This case involves the denial of access to Plaintiff and others similarly situated at the Restaurant on October 7, 2008. Plaintiff was denied equal protection of the law and was denied Civil Rights under both California law and federal law, as hereinbelow described. Plaintiff was denied his rights to full and equal access at the Restaurant because of an inaccessible parking and restroom, all of which made the Restaurant not properly accessible to Plaintiff and to others similarly situated. Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to require Defendants to make the parking and restroom accessible, to comply with ADAAG and the CBC where required, to remove all barriers to access in the Restaurant which are readily achievable to remove, to make all reasonable accommodations in policy in order to enable Plaintiff and others similarly situated to use the Restaurant and at minimum, to use readily achievable alternative methods to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services which the Restaurant makes available to the non-disabled public. Plaintiff also seeks the recovery of damages for his personal damages involved in the discriminatory experiences on October 7, 2008, and seeks recovery of reasonable attorney's fees and litigation expenses and costs according to statute.
- 4. Jurisdiction: This Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to 28 USC § 1331 for violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 USC 12101 et seq. Pursuant to supplemental jurisdiction, attendant and related causes of action arising from the same facts are

also brought under California law, including but not limited to violations of California Civil Code §§ 51, 54, 54.1 and 55.

- 5. Venue: Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 USC 1391(b) and is founded on the fact that the location where Plaintiff experienced his discrimination is located in this district and that Plaintiff's causes of action arose in this district.
- 6. Intradistrict: This case should be assigned to the San Francisco intradistrict because the incident occurred in, and Plaintiff's rights arose in, the San Francisco intradistrict.
- 7. The Restaurant is a "public accommodation or facility" subject to the requirements of California Civil Code § 51, 54, 54.1 and 55.
- 8. Placeholder.
- 9. Defendant is and was the owner, operator, manager, lessor and lessee of the subject
 Restaurant at all times relevant herein. Plaintiff is informed and believes that each of the
 Defendants is and was the agent, employee or representative of each of the other Defendants,
 and performed all acts and omissions stated herein within the scope of such agency or
 employment or representative capacity and is responsible in some manner for the acts and
 omissions of the other Defendants in proximately causing the damages complained of herein.
- 10. Plaintiff and others similarly situated are disabled persons who require the use of a wheelchair and are unable to use public facilities on a "full and equal" basis unless each such facility is in compliance with the provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the regulations thereof. Under Civil Code §§ 51 and 54.1, Defendants were required to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the federal

regulations adopted pursuant thereto. The acts and omissions of which Plaintiff complains took place at the Restaurant.

11. Civil Code §§ 51 and 54, et seq., were enacted to prohibit discrimination against people with disabilities and to encourage the full and free use by people with disabilities of public facilities and other public places. CC §§ 51 and 54(c) state that a violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 is a "violation of this section"; CC § 54.1(a) states that individuals with disabilities are entitled to "full and equal access" to public accommodations and that such access means that which meets the standards of Titles II and III of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto; CC § 52 states that minimum damages for discrimination are \$4,000 for each incidence of discrimination; CC § 54.3 states that minimum damages for discrimination are \$1,000; CC § 54.3 states that a defendant who denies or interferes with a disabled person's rights of access is liable for actual damages and attorneys' fees.

12. Health & Safety Code § 19955 was enacted "To ensure that public accommodations or facilities constructed in this state with private funds adhere to provisions of Chapter 7 (commencing with § 4450) of Division 5 of Title 1 of the Government Code." Such public accommodations include those which are the subject of this action. On information and belief, Title 24 California Code of Regulations, formerly known as the California Administrative Code, was in effect at the time of construction and of each alteration of work, all of which occurred after July 1, 1982, thus requiring access complying with the specifications of title 24 for all such construction and for each such "alteration, structural repair or addition".

13. The Restaurant's parking lot is not accessible because of a built-up curb ramp which prevents the access aisle from being level. The Restaurant's men's restroom is inaccessible to people in wheelchairs, because there is insufficient maneuvering space next to the toilet.

On October 7, 2008, Plaintiff patronized the Restaurant. Because of the built-up curb ramp, it was more difficult for Plaintiff to get out of his vehicle, and ultimately back into it, than it should have been. Because of the inaccessible restroom, Plaintiff had to go home to urinate.

As a result, Plaintiff was embarrassed and humiliated in an amount according to proof.

14. Defendant's failure to create an accessible men's restroom for the Restaurant, remove all readily achievable barriers, institute policies in furtherance of accessibility or at least have an alternate policy to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services offered to the non-disabled public without having to suffer the indignities, as aforesaid, was a violation of the California Building Code, the Americans with Disabilities Act and federal regulations adopted pursuant thereto, and as a consequence, was a violation of Civil Code §§ 51 and 54, et seq.

15. Injunctive relief: Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief to prohibit the acts and omissions by Defendants at the Restaurant as stated above which appear to be continuing, and which have the effect of wrongfully excluding Plaintiff and others similarly situated from using the Restaurant. Plaintiff will patronize the Restaurant again once the barriers are removed. Such acts and omissions are the cause of humiliation and inconvenience of Plaintiff in that these actions continue to treat Plaintiff as an inferior and second class citizen and serve to discriminate against Plaintiff on the sole basis that Plaintiff is a person with a disability and requires the use

3	
5	
6	
7	,
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	

of a wheelchair for movement in public places. Plaintiff is unable so long as such acts and
omissions of Defendant continue, to achieve equal access to and use of this public facility. The
acts of Defendant have proximately caused and will continue to cause irreparable injury to
Plaintiff if not enjoined by this Court.
16. Damages: As a result of the denial of equal access to the Restaurant and due to the acts and
omissions of Defendants and each of them in owning, operating and/or leasing the Restaurant,
Plaintiff suffered a violation of Civil Rights including but not limited to rights under Civil Code
§§ 51, 54 and 54.1, and suffered mental and emotional distress, all to Plaintiff's damages.
Defendant's actions and omissions to act constituted discrimination against Plaintiff on the sole
basis that Plaintiff was physically disabled and unable to use the facilities on a full and equal
basis as other persons. Plaintiff seeks actual damages, the minimum per occurrence damages of
\$4,000 pursuant to CC § 52, and \$1,000 pursuant to CC § 54.3. Plaintiff also seeks trebling of
all of the actual damages as provided by Civil Code § 54.3.
17. Fees and costs: As a result of Defendant's acts, omissions and conduct, Plaintiff has been
required to incur attorney's fees, litigation expenses, and costs as provided by statute, in order
to enforce Plaintiff's rights and to enforce provisions of the law protecting access for disabled
persons and prohibiting discrimination against disabled persons. Plaintiff therefore seeks
recovery of all reasonable attorney's fees and costs, pursuant to the provisions of Civil Code §§
52 and 54.3. Additionally, Plaintiff's lawsuit is intended not only to obtain compensation for
damages to Plaintiff, but also to force the Defendants to make their facilities accessible to all
disabled members of the public, justifying "public interest" attorney's fees, litigation expenses

and costs pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure § 1021.5.

18. Wherefore, Plaintiff asks this Court to preliminarily and permanently enjoin any continuing refusal by Defendants to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto with respect to access of disabled persons to the Restaurant; for statutory damages pursuant to CC § 52; for actual and treble damages pursuant to CC § 54.3 and for attorneys' fees and costs pursuant to CC §§ 52, 54.3 and 1021.5.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF: VIOLATION OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 42 USC §§ 12101 FF

19. Plaintiff realleges the allegations of paragraphs 1-18 hereof.

20. Pursuant to law, in 1990 the United States Congress made findings per 42 USC §12101 regarding physically disabled persons, finding that laws were needed to more fully protect "some 43 million Americans [with] one or more physical or mental disabilities"; that "historically society has tended to isolate and segregate individuals with disabilities"; and that "such forms of discrimination against individuals with disabilities continue to be a serious and pervasive social problem"; that "the Nation's proper goals regarding individuals with disabilities are to assure equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self sufficiency for such individuals"; and that "the continuing existence of unfair and unnecessary discrimination and prejudice denies people with disabilities the opportunity to compete on an equal basis and to pursue those opportunities for which our free society is justifiably famous ..."

21. Congress stated as its purpose in passing the Americans with Disabilities Act (42 USC §12101(b)):

	It is the purpose of this act (1) to provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of
-	discrimination against individuals with disabilities;
Í	(2) to provide clear, strong, consistent, <i>enforceable standards</i> addressing discrimination against individuals with disabilities;
4	(3) to ensure that the Federal government plays a central role in enforcing the standards
ź	
6	(1) to invoke the sweep of congressional authority, meriding the power to emore the
7	14th Amendment and to regulate commerce, in order to address the major areas of discrimination faced day to day by people with disabilities (emphasis added).
8	22. As part of the Americans with Disabilities Act, Public Law 101-336 (hereinafter the
9	"ADA"), Congress passed "Title III - Public Accommodations and Services Operated by Private
10	Entities" (42 USC 12181 ff). Among "private entities" which are considered "public
11	accommodations" for purposes of this Title is a Restaurant (Regulation 36.104).
12	23. Pursuant to §302, 42 USC §12182, "No individual shall be discriminated against on the
13 14	basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, facilities, privileges,
15	advantages or accommodations of any place of public accommodation by any person who
16	owns, leases or leases to, or operates a place of public accommodation."
17	24. Among the specific prohibitions against discrimination were included:
18	§12182(b)(2)(A)(ii): "A failure to make reasonable modifications in policies, practices or
19	procedures when such modifications are necessary to afford such goods, services, facilities,
20	privileges, advantages or accommodations to individuals with disabilities";
21	§12182(b)(A)(iii): "a failure to take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that no individual
22	with a disability is excluded, denied service, segregated, or otherwise treated differently than
23	

other individuals because of the absence of auxiliary aids and services"; §12182(b)(A)(iv):
"A failure to remove architectural barriers and communication barriers that are structural in
nature, in existing facilities where such removal is readily achievable"; §12182(b)(A)(v):
"Where an entity can demonstrate that the removal of a barrier under clause (iv) is not readily
achievable, a failure to make such goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, or
accommodations available through alternative methods if such methods are readily achievable".
The acts and omissions of Defendants set forth herein were in violation of Plaintiff's rights
under the ADA, Public Law 101-336, and the regulations promulgated thereunder, 28 CFR Part
36ff.
25. The removal of each of the barriers complained of by Plaintiff as hereinabove alleged, were
at all times herein mentioned "readily achievable" under the standards of the Americans With

26. Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 USC 12188ff, §308, Plaintiff is entitled to the remedies and procedures set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 USC 2000(a)-3(a), as Plaintiff is being subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability in violation of this Title or has reasonable grounds for believing that he is about to be subjected to discrimination in violation of §12182. On information and belief, Defendants have continued to violate the law and deny the rights of Plaintiff and of other disabled persons to access this public accommodation since on or before October 7, 2008. Pursuant to §12188(a)(2), "In cases

Disabilities Act. Because the Restaurant was not accessible, Defendants had an obligation to

have some sort of plan which would have allowed Plaintiff to enjoy the Restaurant's services

without having to suffer the indignities as aforesaid.

of violations of §12182(b)(2)(A)(iv) ... injunctive relief shall include an order to alter facilities to make such facilities readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities to the extent required by this title."

27. Plaintiff seeks relief pursuant to remedies set forth in §204(a) of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, (42 USC 2000(a)-3(a), and pursuant to Federal Regulations adopted to implement the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Plaintiff is a person for purposes of Section 12188(a) of the ADA who is being subjected to discrimination on the basis of disability in violation of Title III and who has reasonable grounds for believing he will be subjected to such discrimination each time that he may attempt to patronize the Restaurant.

Wherefore Plaintiff prays for relief as hereinafter stated:

PRAYER

- 1. Issue a preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to modify its facilities as required by law to comply with the ADAAG and the CBC where required, remove all barriers where it is readily achievable to do so, institute policies in furtherance of accessibility or at least have an alternate policy to enable Plaintiff to use the goods and services offered to the non-disabled public so that it provides adequate access to all citizens, including persons with disabilities; and issue a preliminary and permanent injunction directing Defendants to maintain its facilities usable by plaintiff and similarly situated persons with disabilities in compliance with federal regulations, and which provide full and equal access, as required by law;
 - 2. Retain jurisdiction over the Defendants until such time as the Court is satisfied that

Defendants' unlawful policies, practices, acts and omissions, and maintenance of inaccessible public facilities as complained of herein no longer occur, and will not recur;

- 3. Award to Plaintiff all appropriate statutory damages;
- 4. Award to Plaintiff all reasonable attorneys' fees, all litigation expenses, and all costs of this proceeding as provided by law; and
 - 5. Grant such other and further relief as this Court may deem just and proper.

Date: October 27, 2008

__S/Thomas N. Stewart, III___ Attorney for Plaintiff